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PATENT
Atty. Dkt. No. STE01 P-1123A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Mark A. Zeh et al
Serial No. : 10/753,663
Filing Date : January 8, 2004
Confirmation : 1147
Art Unit : 3635
Atty. Dkt. : STE01 P-1123A
For : POST AND BEAM FURNITURE SYSTEM

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR IDS SUBMITTED

UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Enclosed please find an Information Disclosure Statement, including copies of the listed references, for filing in the above-identified patent application.

The Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), as set forth below, such that no certification or fee is believed necessary.

- (1) Within three months of the filing date of a national application;
- (2) Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; or
- (3) Before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last.

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Favorable action on the merits of the application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

MARK A. ZEH ET AL

By: Price, Heneveld, Cooper,
DeWitt & Litton, LLP

Carl S. Clark
Registration No. 28 288
695 Kenmoor S.E.
P.O. Box 2567
Grand Rapids, MI 49501
(616) 949-9610

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify this correspondence, and all identified enclosures and attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on 5/24/04.

Carl S. Clark

CSC/jkrp
Enclosures



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Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

UNDER 37 CFR §1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the filing date of the above-referenced application but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are submitted herewith along with Form PTO-1449. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language documents.

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1. DE 19638221 (Germany) appears to disclose a connector assembly or assemblies for connecting horizontally and vertically extending structural members.
2. 0666425 (EPC) appears to disclose a connector assembly or assemblies for connecting horizontally and vertically extending structural members.
3. DE 4208193 (Germany) appears to disclose a connector assembly or assemblies for connecting horizontally and vertically extending structural members.
4. DE3537135 (Germany) appears to disclose a connector assembly or assemblies for connecting horizontally and vertically extending structural members.
5. DT 2725637 (Germany) appears to disclose a connector assembly or assemblies for connecting horizontally and vertically extending structural members.

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6. 2,333,993 (France) appears to disclose a connector assembly or assemblies for connecting horizontally and vertically extending structural members.
7. 2,160,513 (Germany) appears to disclose a connector assembly or assemblies for connecting horizontally and vertically extending structural members.
8. 962,312 (Great Britain) appears to disclose a connector assembly or assemblies for connecting horizontally and vertically extending structural members.
9. 1,220,067 (France) appears to disclose a connector assembly or assemblies for connecting horizontally and vertically extending structural members.
10. 93,366 (Germany) appears to disclose a connector assembly or assemblies for connecting horizontally and vertically extending structural members.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or

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constitute "prior art". If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 16-2463.

Respectfully submitted,

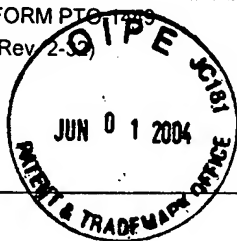
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DeWitt & Litton, LLP



Carl S. Clark
Registration No. 28 288
695 Kenmoor S.E.
P.O. Box 2567
Grand Rapids, MI 49501
(616) 949-9610

CSC/jkrp

FORM PTO-1449
(Rev. 2-99)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
STE01 P-1123ASERIAL NO.
10/753,663INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT
(Use several sheets if necessary)APPLICANT
Mark A. Zeh et al.FILING DATE
January 8, 2004

GROUP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	D 4 4 5 4 5 6	07/24/2001	Saylor et al.			
	D 4 1 5 9 0 1	11/02/1999	Arko et al.			
	D 4 0 4 0 1 0	01/12/1999	Viklund et al.			
	D 3 7 8 7 3 1	04/08/1997	Kopish			
	D 3 1 5 6 5 1	03/26/1991	Citterio et al.			
	D 3 1 4 4 8 2	02/12/1991	Walter et al.			
	D 3 1 2 1 7 7	11/20/1990	Walter et al.			
	D 2 7 3 4 6 0	04/17/1984	Sturm			
	D 2 2 9 6 1 0	12/18/1973	Shinjo			
	6 4 8 1 1 6 9	11/19/2002	Ludwig et al.			
	6 3 0 2 3 6 6	10/16/2001	Saylor et al.			
	6 2 8 2 8 5 4	09/04/2001	Vos et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	WO 00 2 1 4 1 2	04/20/2000	PCT			XX	
	DE 19 63 8 2 2 1	04/02/1998	Germany				XX
	0 6 6 6 4 2 5	08/09/1995	EPC				XX
	DE 42 0 8 1 9 3	09/16/1993	Germany				XX
	DE 35 3 7 1 3 5	04/23/1987	Germany				Xx

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2001/0019096 A1; Andreoli et al.; September 6, 2001
	U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2001/0017009 A1; Lininger et al.; August 30, 2001
	U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2001/0004099 A1; Onishi; June 21, 2001

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

(Form PTO-1449 [6-4])

FORM PTO-1449 (Rev. 2-32)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. STE01 P-1123A	SERIAL NO. 10/753,663
		APPLICANT Mark A. Zeh et al.	
		FILING DATE January 8, 2004	GROUP

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
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(Use several sheets if necessary)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6 2 7 9 6 4 3	08/28/2001	Shipman			
	6 2 6 7 3 3 8	07/31/2001	Saylor et al.			
	6 2 2 7 3 8 4	05/08/2001	Saylor et al.			
	6 2 0 6 2 0 6	03/27/2001	Saylor et al.			
	6 1 3 1 8 6 6	10/17/2000	Kesinger			
	6 1 2 5 6 0 0	10/03/2000	Bastian			
	6 0 8 6 3 0 0	07/11/2000	Fröhlich			
	6 0 7 3 3 9 9	06/13/2000	Shipman et al.			
	6 0 6 7 7 6 2	05/30/2000	Greer et al.			
	6 0 3 8 8 0 2	03/21/2000	Tidwell			
	6 0 3 7 5 3 8	03/14/2000	Brooks			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	DT 27 2 5 6 3 7	12/22/1977	Germany				XX
	2 3 3 3 9 9 3	07/01/1977	France				XX
	2 1 6 0 5 1 3	06/14/1973	Germany				XX
	9 6 2 3 1 2	07/01/1964	Great Britain				XX
	1 2 2 0 0 6 7	05/23/1960	France				XX
	9 3 3 6 6	10/09/1896	Germany				XX

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	Bosch Aluminum Structural Framing System "Everything to Build Anything"; Bosch Automation Products, Buchanan, Michigan; 4 pages
	Herman Miller "Resolve" Post and Beam Workspace Management and Furniture System Brochure; Herman Miller, Inc., Zeeland, Michigan; 21 pages
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

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	6 0 0 9 9 3 0	01/04/2000	Jantschek			
	6 0 0 3 2 7 5	12/21/1999	Cornell et al.			
	6 0 0 0 1 7 9	12/14/1999	Musculus et al.			
	5 9 7 4 7 4 2	11/02/1999	Schreiner et al.			
	5 9 7 0 6 7 5	10/26/1999	Schray			
	5 9 5 0 3 7 1	09/14/1999	Rives et al.			
	5 9 4 9 0 2 5	09/07/1999	Nagai et al.			
	5 9 3 4 6 2 3	08/10/1999	Kopish			
	5 9 0 1 5 2 3	05/11/1999	Tasi			
	5 9 0 1 5 1 3	05/11/1999	Mollenkopf et al.			
	5 8 9 9 0 2 5	05/04/1999	Casey et al.			
	5 8 8 1 5 0 0	03/16/1999	Latino et al.			
	5 8 3 3 4 1 7	11/10/1998	Sargent et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		The Industrial Erector Set "80*20" Metric", The Industrial Erector Set, Columbia City, Indiana, 12 pages, dated 1998
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED	

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	5 8 3 1 2 1 1	11/03/1998	Gartung et al.			
	5 8 2 6 6 3 9	10/27/1998	Miller			
	5 8 0 3 1 4 6	09/08/1998	Boon			
	5 7 7 5 5 2 1	07/07/1998	Tisbo			
	5 7 6 8 8 4 0	06/23/1998	Feldpausch et al.			
	5 7 3 7 8 0 1	04/14/1998	Flood			
	5 6 8 9 9 2 6	11/25/1997	Nichols			
	5 6 8 7 5 1 3	11/18/1997	Baloga et al.			
	5 6 7 5 9 4 9	10/14/1997	Forslund et al.			
	5 6 7 5 9 4 4	10/14/1997	Kerr et al.			
	5 6 3 4 3 0 0	06/03/1997	Huebner et al.			
	5 6 2 8 5 9 8	05/13/1997	Höfle			

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		4	9	5	0	0	9	9	08/21/1990	Roellin			
		4	9	0	5	4	2	8	03/06/1990	Sykes			
		4	9	0	3	4	5	2	02/27/1990	Huang			
		4	8	3	1	7	9	1	05/23/1989	Ball			
		4	8	3	0	5	3	1	05/16/1989	Condit et al.			
		4	8	2	6	1	1	7	05/02/1989	Bastian et al.			
		4	8	2	6	1	1	2	05/02/1989	Rettler			
		4	7	8	4	5	5	2	11/15/1988	Rebentisch			
		4	7	7	2	0	0	0	09/20/1988	Aubert			
		4	6	7	7	7	9	4	07/07/1987	Parron et al.			
		4	5	7	5	2	9	5	03/11/1986	Rebentisch			
		4	5	0	6	3	9	9	03/26/1985	Espey et al.			

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	4 4 5 0 6 5 5	05/29/1984	Rosenthal et al.			
	4 3 7 8 1 7 3	03/29/1983	Hopwell			
	4 3 7 7 3 6 0	03/22/1983	Kennedy			
	4 2 4 8 5 5 8	02/03/1981	Lechner			
	4 2 2 6 3 9 4	10/07/1980	Einhorn			
	4 2 2 4 7 6 9	09/30/1980	Ball et al.			
	4 1 4 6 0 7 4	03/27/1979	Kowalski			
	4 1 4 3 6 9 8	03/13/1979	Smolka			
	4 0 7 3 1 1 3	02/14/1978	Oudot et al.			
	3 9 5 5 7 0 2	05/11/1976	Lundy			
	3 9 0 8 3 3 0	09/30/1975	Frach et al.			

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	3 9 0 1 6 1 2	08/26/1975	Canin			
	3 7 7 8 1 7 5	12/11/1973	Zimmer			
	3 7 5 9 2 9 7	09/18/1973	Anderson et al.			
	3 5 5 7 8 5 7	01/26/1971	Swenson			
	3 4 8 3 9 1 0	12/16/1969	Londe et al.			
	3 4 5 6 7 0 6	07/22/1969	Ollis, Jr.			
	3 4 5 6 5 4 9	07/22/1969	Horton			
	3 3 8 1 4 3 8	05/07/1968	Bohnsack			
	3 0 5 3 3 5 5	09/11/1962	Attwood			
	3 0 4 9 1 6 1	08/14/1962	Attwood			
	2 9 4 4 6 4 2	07/12/1960	Evans			

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	2 9 2 8 5 1 2	03/15/1960	Slater et al.			
	2 8 7 7 8 7 5	03/17/1959	Bolt			
	2 7 8 4 8 1 2	03/12/1957	Kindorf			
	2 6 9 6 1 3 9	12/07/1954	Attwood			
	2 6 7 6 6 8 0	04/27/1954	Kindorf			
	2 3 8 0 3 7 9	07/31/1945	Attwood			
	2 3 4 5 6 5 0	04/04/1944	Attwood			
	2 3 3 3 9 9 3	11/09/1943	Frailing			
	2 2 8 1 4 8 2	04/28/1942	Crayton			
	2 2 4 8 7 1 5	07/08/1941	Mafera			
	2 1 6 0 5 1 3	05/30/1939	Pasternak			
	1 8 2 0 6 6 7	08/25/1931	Leyes			

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